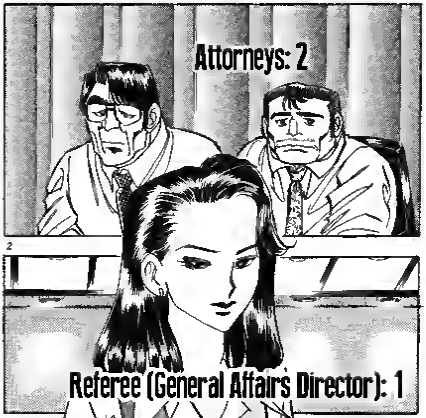
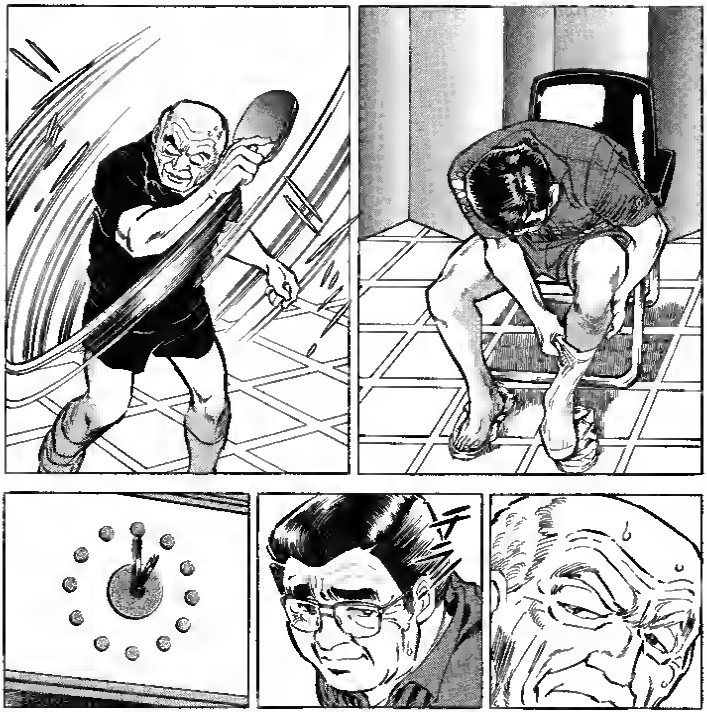
Chapter

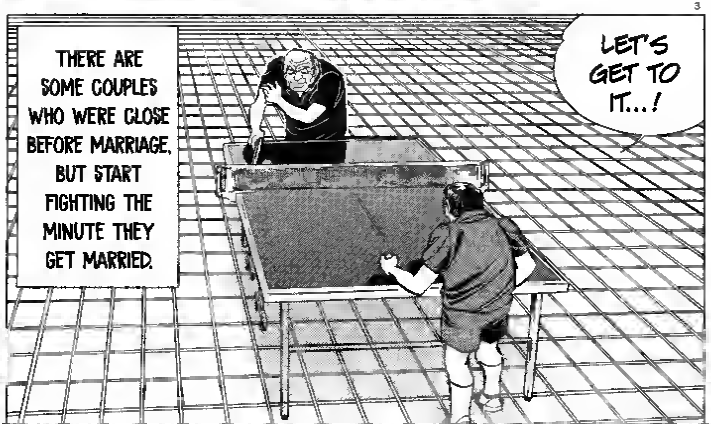
Ping-Pong Boss 2 The Fatal Foe: Ping-Pong Chairman


Attorneys: 2
Referee (General Affairs Director): 1

鳳凰の間
A CERTAIN HOTEL'S PHOENIX ROOM.

卓球社長




THERE ARE SOME COUPLES WHO WERE CLOSE BEFORE MARRIAGE, BUT START FIGHTING THE MINUTE THEY GET MARRIED.
LET'S GET TO IT...!

COUPLES ARE MEANT TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER, BUT MEN BUTT HEADS BY NATURE...

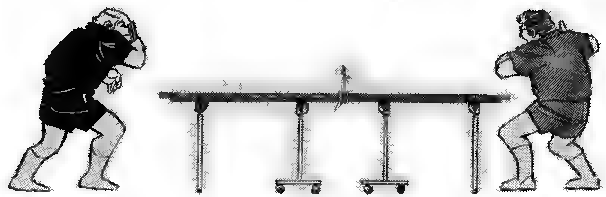
IF THIS IS TRUE FOR COUPLES, HOW MUCH MORE TRUE IS IT FOR MEN!

5

BUT THIS DIARCHY WOULD NOT LAST LONG...

THE BOSS OF ONE OF THESE COMPANIES RETIRED FROM ACTIVE DUTY AND CHANGED HIS TITLE TO "CHAIRMAN", BUT BECAUSE HE LEFT THE TITLE OF "REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTOR" OPEN, THIS COMPANY ENDED UP HAVING TWO "HEADS".

ONE DAY, TWO COMPANIES MERGED INTO ONE.



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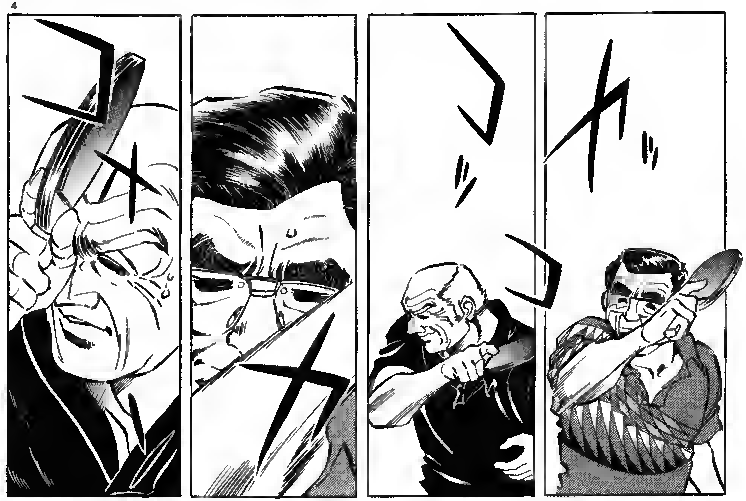
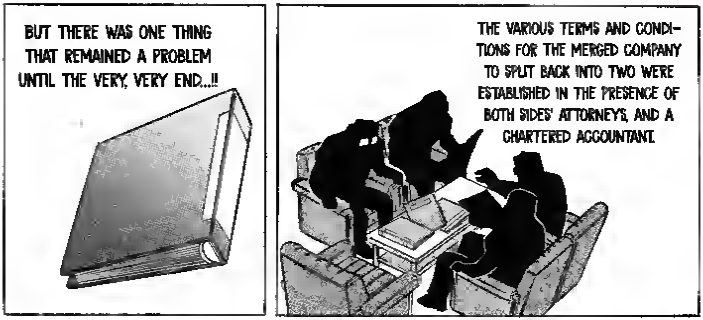
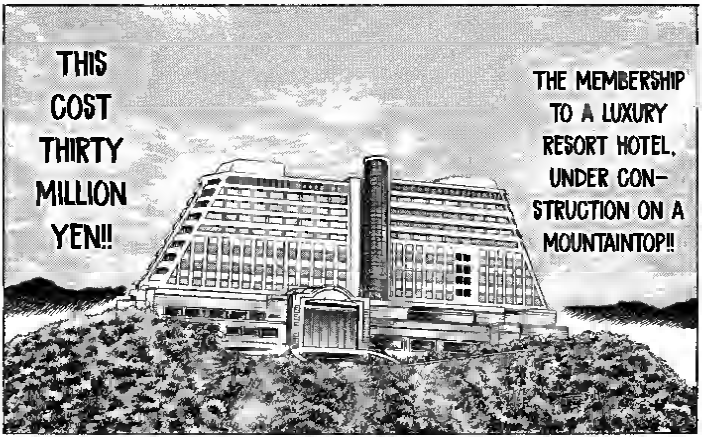
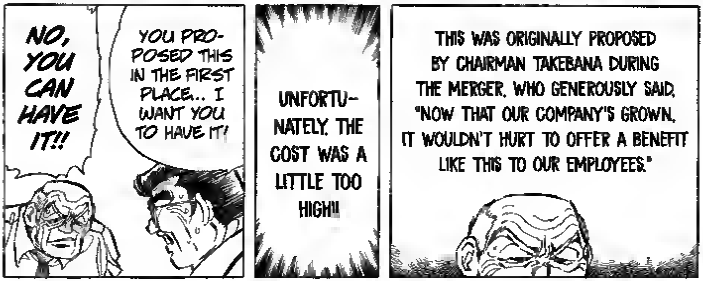



BUT THERE WAS ONE THING THAT REMAINED A PROBLEM UNTIL THE VERY, VERY END...!!
THE VARIOUS TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE MERGED COMPANY TO SPLIT BACK INTO TWO WERE ESTABLISHED IN THE PRESENCE OF BOTH SIDES' ATTORNEYS, AND A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT.


THIS COST THIRTY MILLION YEN!!
THE MEMBERSHIP TO A LUXURY RESORT HOTEL, UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON A MOUNTAINTOP!!

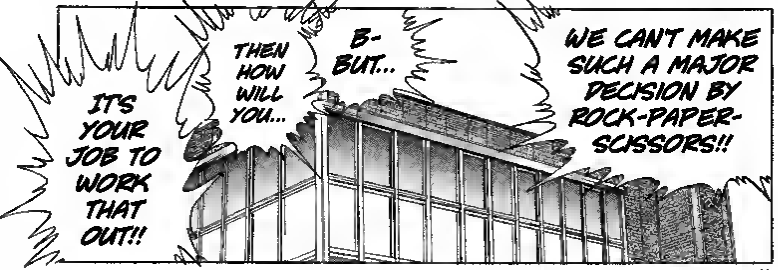

NO, YOU CAN HAVE IT!!
YOU PROPOSED THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE... I WANT YOU TO HAVE IT!
UNFORTUNATELY, THE COST WAS A LITTLE TOO HIGH!!
THIS WAS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY CHAIRMAN TAKEBANA DURING THE MERGER, WHO GENEROUSLY SAID, "NOW THAT OUR COMPANY'S GROWN, IT WOULDN'T HURT TO OFFER A BENEFIT LIKE THIS TO OUR EMPLOYEES."

I'M TELLING YOU, WE DON'T NEED IT!!
I KNOW!
THAT'S WHY I'M GIVING IT TO YOU!!
IF YOU DIDN'T NEED IT, WHY DID YOU EVEN PROPOSE IT IN THE FIRST PLACE!?
YOU COULD'VE DECLINED IT TO BEGIN WITH..!
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN! SHUT UP!!
7
IT IS MY CONCERN!
I'M THE MANAGING DIRECTOR !!
AND THIS DISCUSSION IS BETWEEN THE TWO COMPANY HEADS!!

YOU'RE MAKING THIS A TRIARCHY, RATHER THAN A DIARCHY!!
……
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE THE BOSS' WIFE... DOESN'T MEAN YOU GET TO OVERSTEP YOUR BOUNDS AS MANAGING DIRECTOR...
YOU'RE ALWAYS STICKING YOUR NOSE WHERE IT DOESN'T BELONG...
コツ
MANAGING DIRECTOR
PLEASE LEAVE US,
AND I SAID THAT WE WON'T!!
I WANT YOU TO TAKE IT!
LET'S DISCUSS THE MEMBERSHIP
NOW, GETTING BACK ON TRACK...
バーン
THIS IS NO PROBLEM!
HE'S ON SHAKIER GROUND, SINCE HE BROUGHT IT UP IN THE FIRST PLACE...
SO THEIR ATTORNEYS BEGAN TO DELIBERATE THE MATTER.

...AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE...
BUT THE BOSS' ATTORNEY WAS TOO WEAK... AND THE CHAIRMAN'S VETERAN ATTORNEY WAS ABLE TO TWIST HIM AROUND HIS FINGER...!!
チッ
チッ
チッ
チッ
HE WANTED TO GET THIS ISSUE OVER WITH SO HE COULD FOCUS ON HIS OWN PROBLEMS.
HIS OWN OFFICE WAS NECK-DEEP IN DEBT AT THIS POINT!!
ONE HOUR LATER,
THEY CAME TO A CONC-LUSION.
WE'VE MADE A DECISION.
LET'S DO THIS!

HUH!?
YOU TWO ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS FOR IT!!


IT'S YOUR JOB TO WORK THAT OUT!!
THEN HOW WILL YOU...
B-BUT...
WE CAN'T MAKE SUCH A MAJOR DECISION BY ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!!

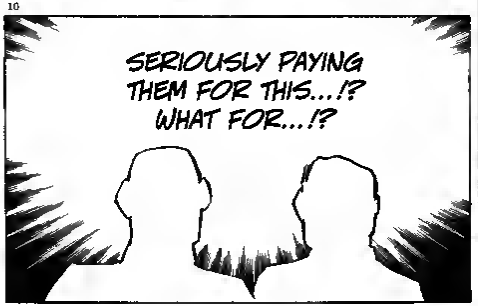
11

PING-PONG FOR THIRTY MILLION YEN!?
PING-PONG!?
AND THEY DECIDED TO PLAY PING-PONG FOR IT.
IT'S WORTH THIRTY MILLION YEN.
ABOUT THE HOTEL MEMBER-SHIP!?
HEY, DID YOU HEAR

47

A-ARE WE...

10


SERIOUSLY PAYING THEM FOR THIS...!? WHAT FOR...!?

SCIS-SORS!?
...ROCK, PAPER...

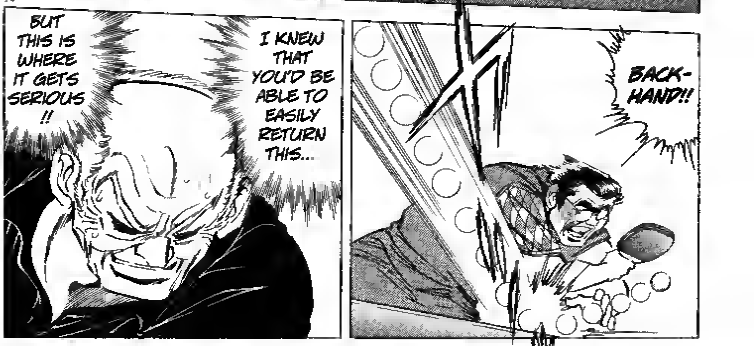
46

NOW, DECIDE ON THE ORDER OF SERVICE!!
THIS PING-PONG GAME BETWEEN AMATEURS, OVER A THIRTY MILLION YEN MEMBERSHIP, WAS UNDERWAY!!
ROCK!
PAPER!
SCIS-SORS !!
I...
HEHE, MR. MIZUSHIMA...
CHAIRMAN TAKEBANA SERVES FIRST!!

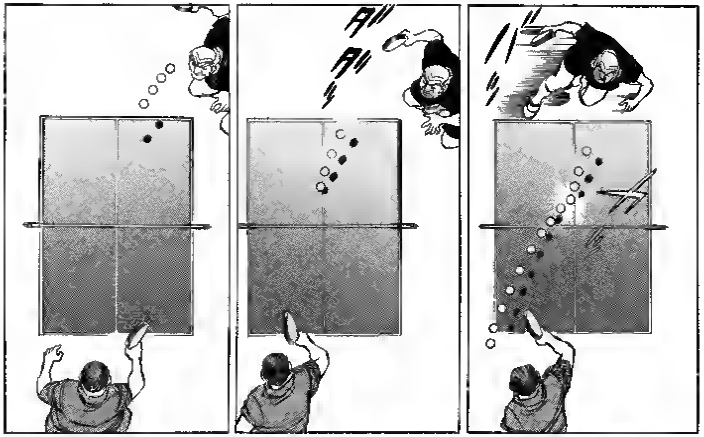
AND SO...

THEY'RE ALREADY ACTIVE MEMBERS OF OUR PING-PONG CIRCLE...
SO I DON'T THINK THERE'S MUCH DIFFERENCE IN THEIR SKILL LEVELS...

HAVE PREPARED FOR THIS MOMENT...
BY DEVELOPING A "WEAPON" TO BEAT YOU!!

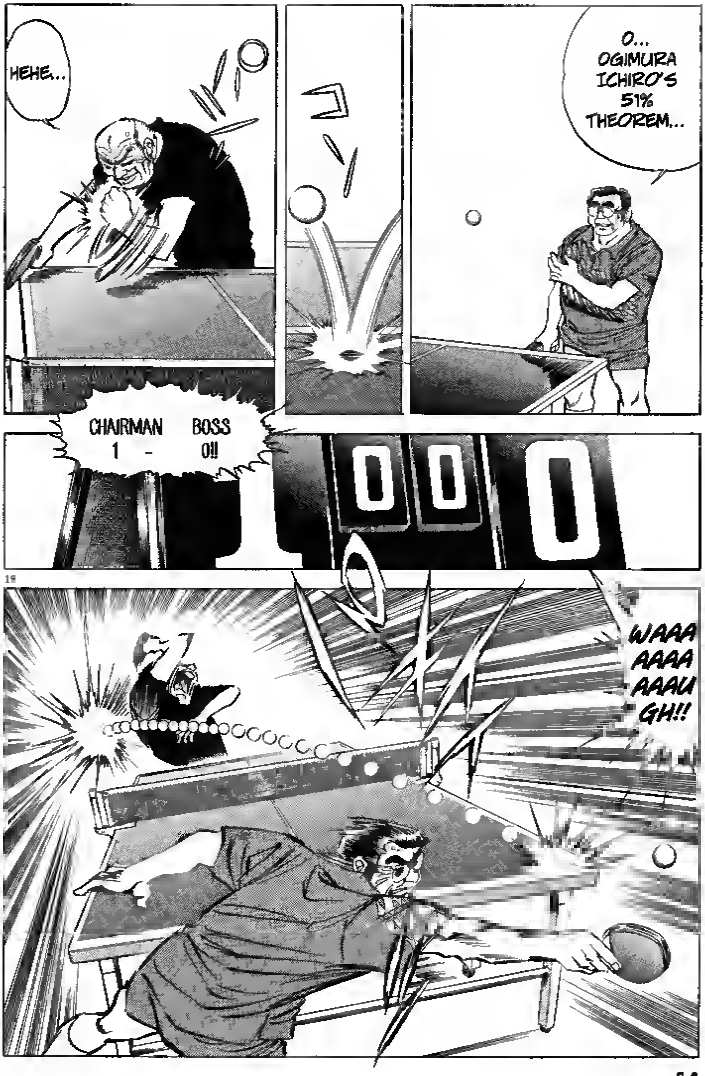

BUT THIS IS WHERE IT GETS SERIOUS!!
I KNEW THAT YOU'D BE ABLE TO EASILY RETURN THIS...
BACK-HAND!!

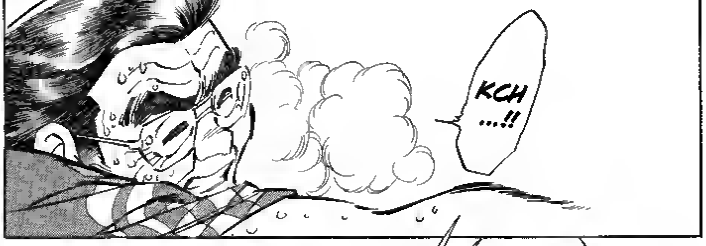
HUP!

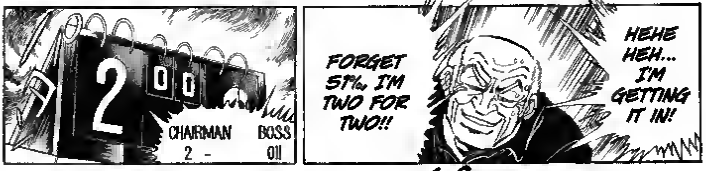

AH
AH

THAT POINT!
THERE'S JUST ONE POINT I'M AIMING FOR...

AND I'LL HIT IT THERE WITH ALL MY MIGHT!!
THAT'S THE POINT THAT NO ONE CAN RETURN!!
THEORETICALLY SPEAKING, HE WOULD WIN AUTOMATICALLY BY JUST HITTING IT THERE, AND HE PUT THIS INTO PRACTICE!!
BUT OGIMURA SAID THAT IF HE PRACTICED ENOUGH TO RAISE THE PROBABILITY OF HITTING IT TO 51%,
BUT AT FULL POWER, THERE IS A HIGH PROBABILITY OF IT MISSING AND GOING OUT OF BOUNDS
IF THE BALL IS HIT AT FULL POWER TO THE MOST DIFFICULT POINT IN THE COURT TO HIT, IT CANNOT BE RETURNED!!
WHAT IS OGIMURA ICHIRO'S 51% THEOREM!?
IT'S OGIMURA ICHIRO'S 51% THEOREM!
MIZUSHIMA!
THAT'S RIGHT, MIZUSHIMA.
YES...
THAT WAS...
TH...

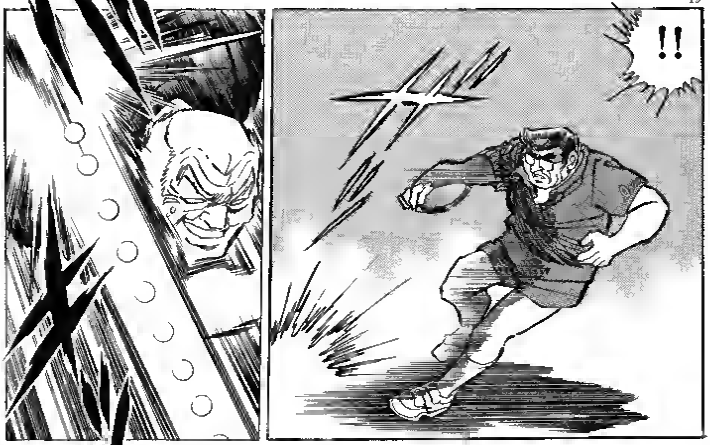

HEHE...
O... OGIMURA ICHIRO'S 51% THEOREM...
CHAIRMAN 1 - BOSS 0!!
WAAAAAAAAAUGH!!


KCH ...!!

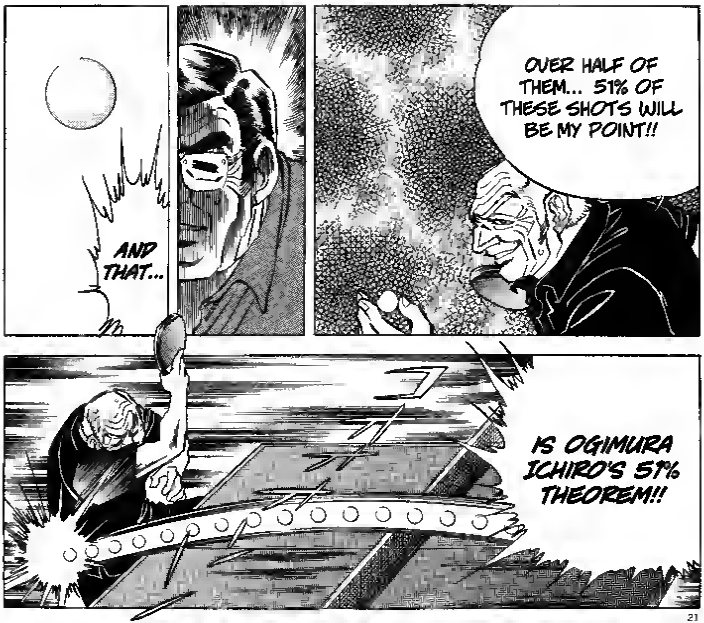

2 00
CHAIRMAN 2 -
BOSS 011
FORGET 5%, I'M TWO FOR TWO!!
HEHE HEH... I'M GETTING IT IN!

HUP !!
MM GH!

19


!!

BACK-HAND !?
OUT !!
PHEW...
.....
I MISSED ...
AL RIGHT.
20
I WAS PREPARED TO MISS ALMOST HALF OF THESE SHOTS TO BEGIN WITH.
BUT...


AND THAT...
OVER HALF OF THEM... 51% OF THESE SHOTS WILL BE MY POINT!!
IS OGIMURA ICHIRO'S 51% THEOREM!!
21

IF I KEEP LETTING CHAIRMAN TAKEBANA CONTROL THE MATCH... THERE'S A 51% CHANCE I'LL LOSE!!
T-THIS ISN'T GOOD... I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING... THINK UP SOME WAY TO FIGHT BACK..

WILL I...
A... ANOTHER OUT...
REALLY
REALLY...
GET 51% IN!?
OUT!!
AND THAT EXTRA 1%...
BUT... BUT I...
P... PERHAPS OGIMURA ICHIRO WAS ABLE TO GET 51% IN...
I AM NOT OGIMURA ICHIRO ...!!
CAN MEAN THIRTY MILLION YEN!!

THE IMMENSE PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURE WAS BEGINNING TO AFFECT THESE TWO REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTORS...!

THIS DICEY BATTLE CONTINUED! IN ADDITION TO THE FLOW OF THE SCORING, WHICH DID NOT CLEARLY FAVOR EITHER OF THEM, WAS THE WEIGHT OF THE THIRTY MILLION YEN...

コンカコンカ

ヨカヨカヨカ

BIG HOPE HOTEL

KCH ...

CHAIRMAN

BOSS

13 00 17

F...

51% !!

AND CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA, WHO WAS FIGHTING WITH THE 51% THEOREM, WAS PARTICULARLY EXHAUSTED.

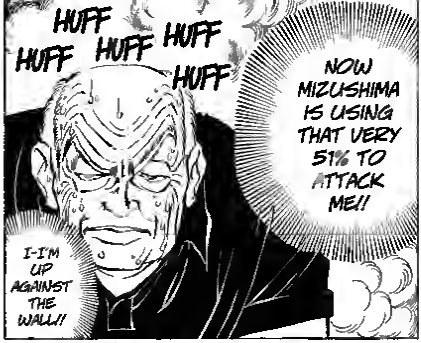
THAT STRATEGY WAS TOO RECKLESS FOR ME ...!!

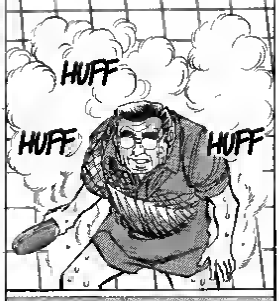
IT'S NOT EVEN CLOSE TO 51% ANYMORE...

I... IT'S HOPELESS!!

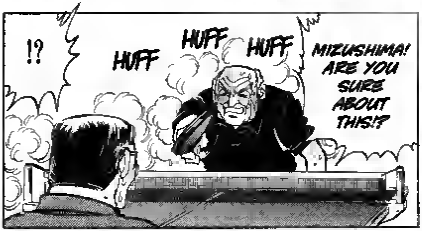
23

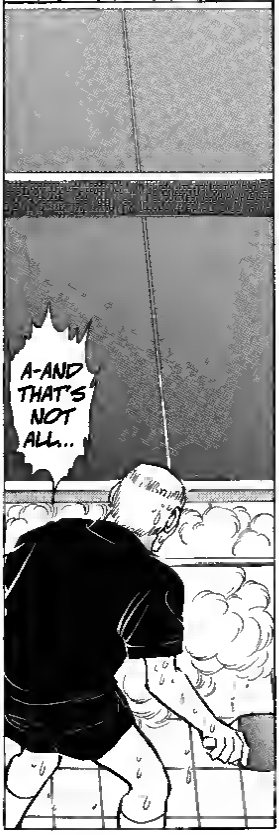
AHH!!


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
NOW MIZUSHIMA IS USING THAT VERY 51% TO ATTACK ME!!
I-I'M UP AGAINST THE WALL!!


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

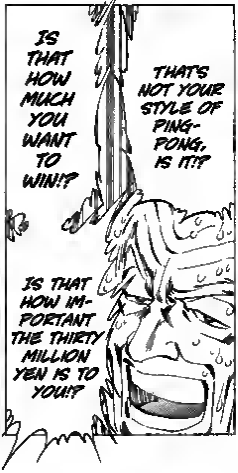
M...

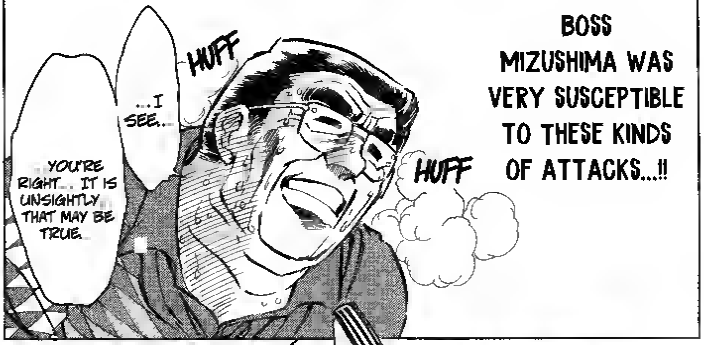

!?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
MIZUSHIMA! ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS!?

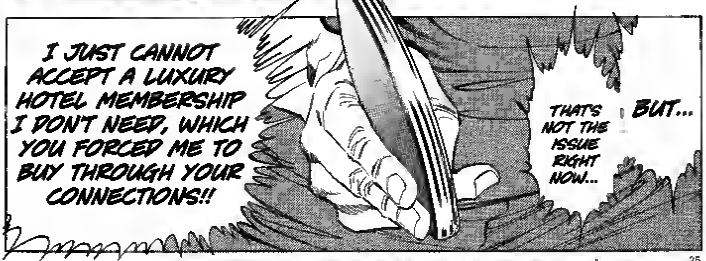

A-AND THAT'S NOT ALL...

24

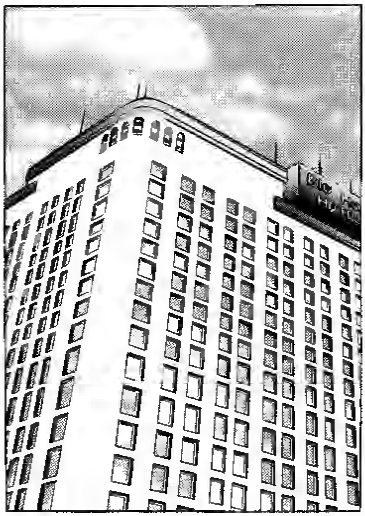
UNN NNN... MMG H...


IS THAT HOW MUCH YOU WANT TO WIN!?
THAT'S NOT YOUR STYLE OF PING-PONG, IS IT!?
IS THAT HOW IM-PORTANT THE THIRTY MILLION YEN IS TO YOU!?

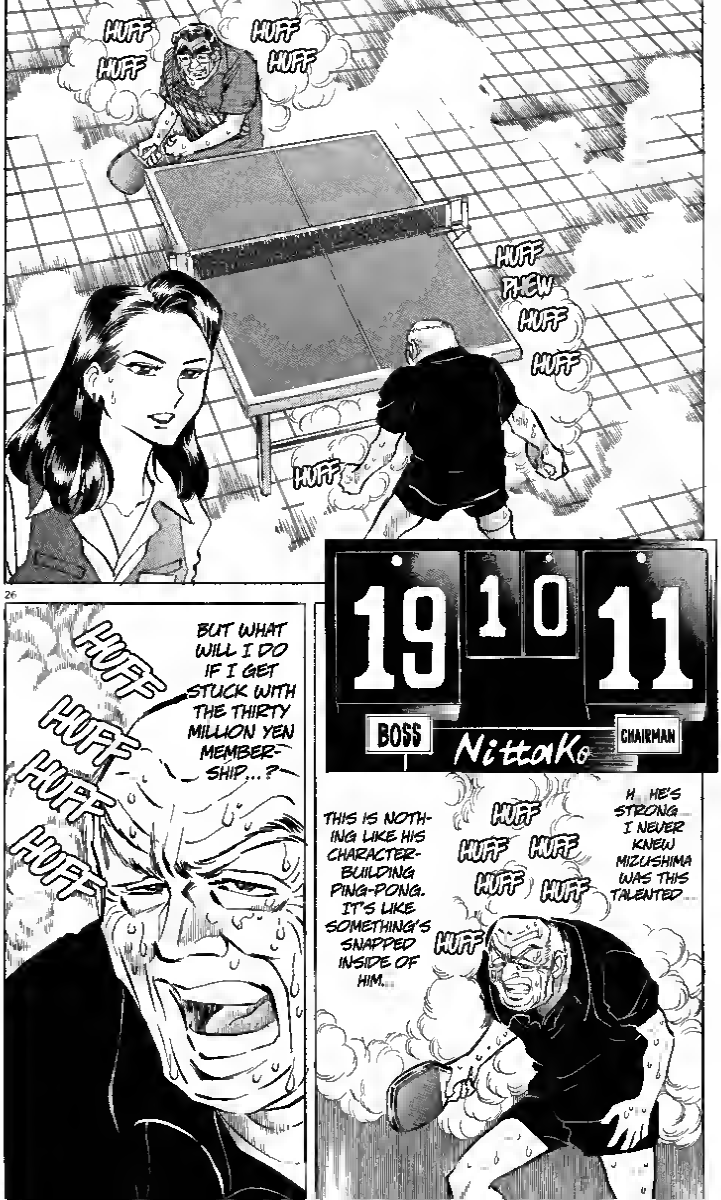

BOSS MIZUSHIMA WAS VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THESE KINDS OF ATTACKS...!!
HUFF
HUFF
...I SEE...
YOU'RE RIGHT... IT IS UNSIGHTLY... THAT MAY BE TRUE...

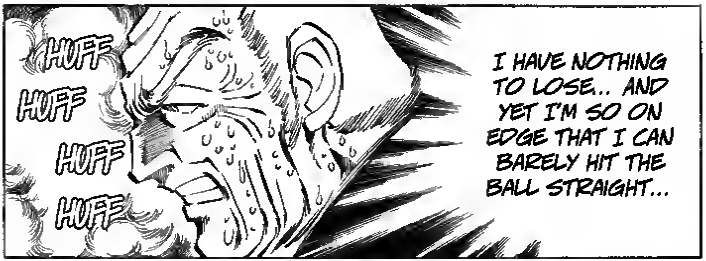

I JUST CANNOT ACCEPT A LUXURY HOTEL MEMBERSHIP I DON'T NEED, WHICH YOU FORCED ME TO BUY THROUGH YOUR CONNECTIONS!!
THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE RIGHT NOW...
BUT...

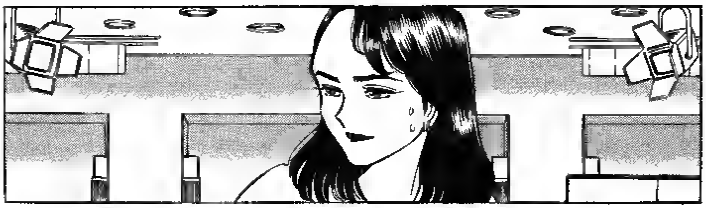
25

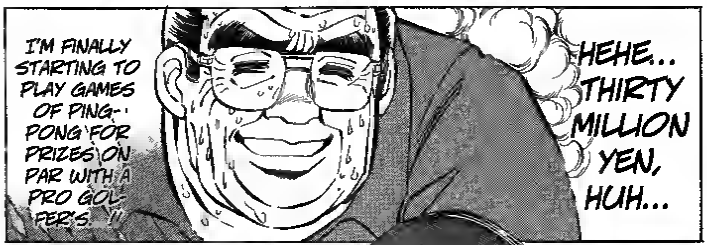


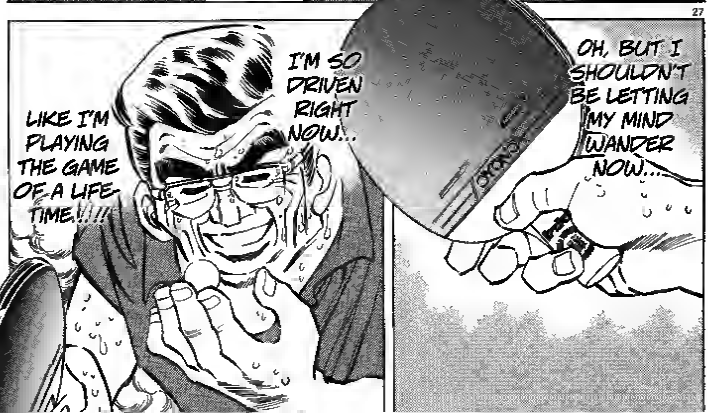
THAT'S WHY I'M USING THE ST%!!
WHOA !!


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PHEW
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
19
10
11
BOSS
NittaKo
CHAIRMAN
BUT WHAT WILL I DO IF I GET STUCK WITH THE THIRTY MILLION YEN MEMBER-SHIP...?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THIS IS NOTH-ING LIKE HIS CHARACTER-BUILDING PING-PONG. IT'S LIKE SOMETHING'S SNAPPED INSIDE OF HIM.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
H HE'S STRONG... I NEVER KNEW MIZUSHIMA WAS THIS TALENTED...


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
I HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE... AND YET I'M SO ON EDGE THAT I CAN BARELY HIT THE BALL STRAIGHT...




I'M FINALLY STARTING TO PLAY GAMES OF PING-PONG FOR PRIZES ON PAR WITH A PRO GOLFER'S.
HEHE... THIRTY MILLION YEN, HUH...


I'M SO DRIVEN RIGHT NOW...
LIKE I'M PLAYING THE GAME OF A LIFE-TIME!!!!
OH, BUT I SHOULDN'T BE LETTING MY MIND WANDER NOW...

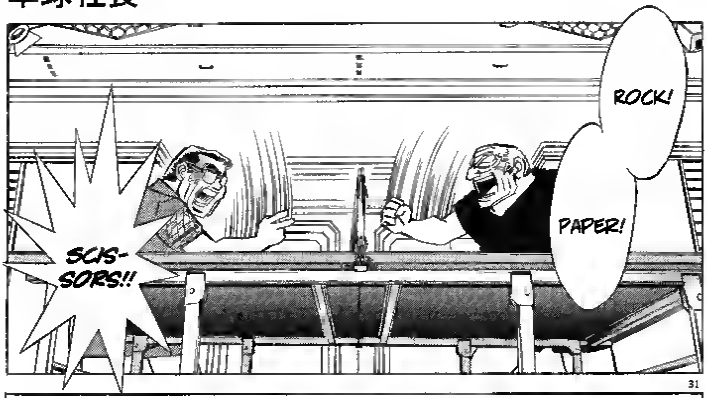
I MAY NEVER GET TO ENJOY SUCH A FUN GAME OF PING-PONG AGAIN...
IF I WIN THIS BATTLE AND BURN OUT...

IF I WIN THIS GAME WITH THIRTY MILLION YEN ON THE LINE, I'LL QUIT PING-PONG WITH A SMILE ON MY FACE!!
BUT I WILL WIN!!
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE PLAYED THIS GAME...!!
PER-HAPS

I HAVE NO REGRETS IN MY PING-PONG LIFE!!
WAAAAUGH!!
29
THIRTY MILLION YEN RESTING ON THIS LAST RALLY!!!
BOSS
CHAIRMAN
20
1
0
11
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?
MATCH POINT!!
D... DAMN...
WHAT AM I... SUPPOSED TO DO NOW...?

HOW IS IT NORMAL IN ANY WAY TO SETTLE THIS ISSUE OVER PING-PONG!? YOU EMBARRASS ME!!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST JOKING! ARE YOU ACTUALLY DOING THIS!?
MANAGING DIRECTOR!
EIKO !!
THEN SETTLE IT THAT WAY!!
DIDN'T YOUR ATTORNEYS SAY TO SETTLE THIS BY ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS?
HUFF
HUFF
HUH ...?
HUFF

NO... I STILL FEEL LIKE I CAN WIN...
B... BUT I...
EVEN IN ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS
LET'S DECIDE THIS FAIRLY BY ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!!
T-THAT'S RIGHT! OF COURSE!!
W-WAIT... YOU CAN'T BE... BUT WE'VE COME ALL THIS WAY...
I SECOND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR'S MOTION!!



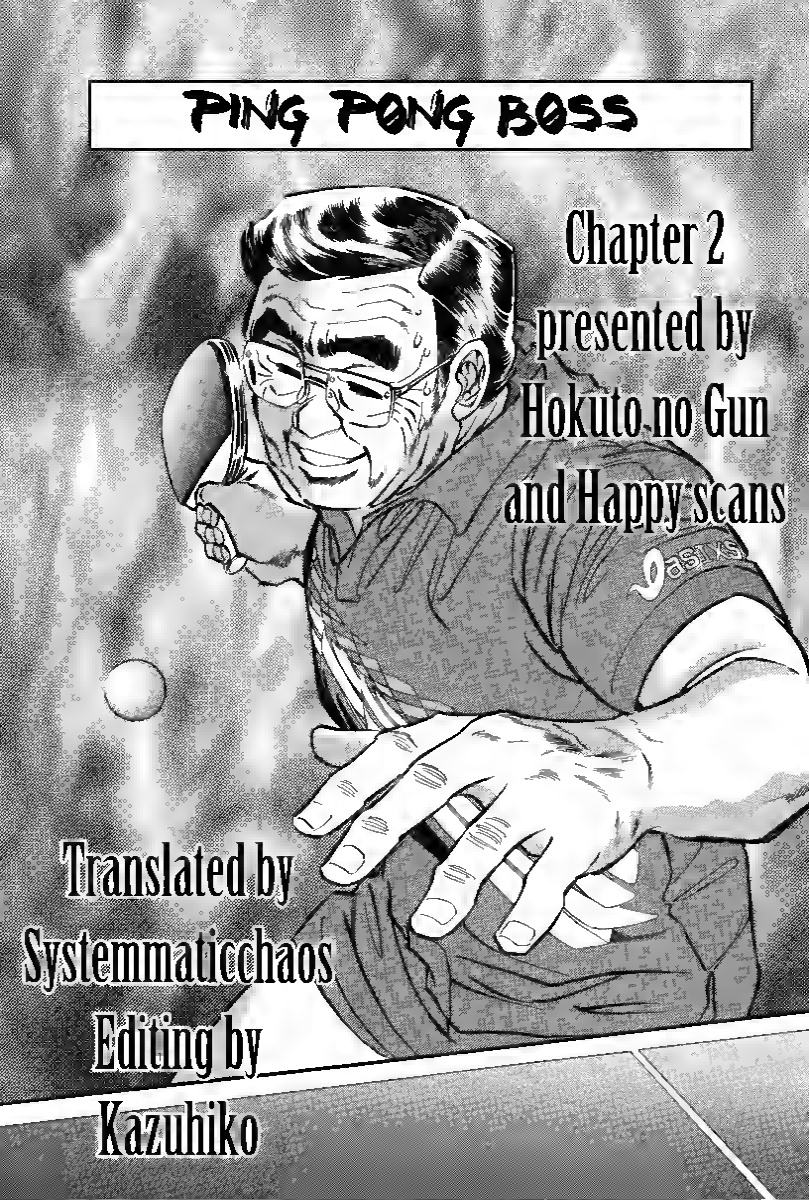
31

From now on, Mizushima's company would have to pay exorbitant expenses every month as part of its benefits package... But he was a little bit happy about that...

And so, the boss lost. Five minutes later, the managing director repeatedly bowed in apology to the boss, but it was too late...

BOSS! THEY'VE GOT SQUASH OVER HERE!
BECAUSE THIS LUXURY RESORT HOTEL WAS ALWAYS AVAILABLE FOR RETREATS.
GOLF !!
THERE'S A POOL UP HERE !!
HOWEVER, THIS LUXURY RESORT HOTEL WAS NOT EQUIPPED WITH WHAT THE BOSS WANTED THE MOST: A PING-PONG TABLE.
HOT SPRINGS !!
IF ONLY I'D WON THAT GAME OF PING-PONG!!
AHH ...!!

PING PONG BOSS



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